

St. Nicholas Russain Orthodox
Churches, New Church
Chignik Lake
Alaska

HABS No. AK-68B

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

ST. NICHOLAS RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCHES, NEW CHURCH

HABS No. AK-68-B

Location: Chignik Lake, Alaska Peninsula, Alaska. The new church is located just south of the old one.

Significance: The differing heights of the gable roofs give this new church an interesting profile, as it continues a traditional form of Alaskan Russian Orthodox churches.

Description: The nave measures approximately 24' x 40'. The sanctuary on the east end, which is lower and smaller, measures approximately 18' x 14'. The vestibule on the west end is also lower and smaller, measuring approximately 20' x 16'. All three sections, plus an even smaller porch on the west, are covered with metal-clad gable roofs and T1-11 siding. A square cupola with pyramidal roof is located on the ridgeline over the nave.

On the interior, the iconostas separating the nave and sanctuary rises the full height of the nave. It has three round-arched openings and new icons. The oldest icons are four oil-on-canvas paintings on the back wall of the sanctuary. There is a three-step amvon with a semi-circular projection in the center.

There is an octagonal recess in the ceiling, 8' in diameter and 4' high. The warden's desk is located in the vestibule, with a window into the nave.

History: The church appears to be recent, and probably dates from the 1980s.

Historian: Alison K. Hoagland, HABS Historian, 1990.